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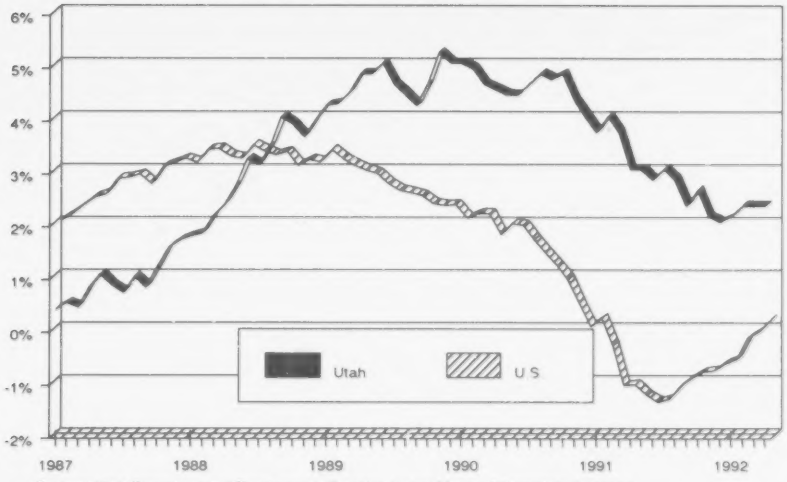
Utah Labor Market Report

April 1992
Volume 2, No. 4

Year-Over Percent Change in Nonfarm Jobs



Source: Utah Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Services

Utah bucks the national trend again— This time in the other direction

The national unemployment rate finally dropped, but Utah's rate moved in the other direction. Is that the bad news or the good news?

Joblessness in the State edged up two-tenths of a percentage point to 4.7 percent in April. As ironic as it may sound, Utah's relatively strong economy may be the reason behind this increase in unemployment. Higher joblessness occurred not because of layoffs but from people entering or re-entering the labor market. Two things appear to be happening. First, people from depressed areas are paying attention to all the national publicity Utah has received and have decided to come here to look for work. Second, individuals who had become discouraged and dropped out of the labor market have realized that the country is recovering from its economic slump and have renewed their employment search.

Utah's unemployment rate had dropped dramatically in the previous four months and this slight rise is not totally unexpected. Roughly 38,600 Utahns were out of work in April, up 4,300 from April 1991 when unemployment registered 4.3 percent. Nevertheless, even with the decline in the nation's rate, the State's unemployment rate still measures 2.5 points below the national average.

In addition, Utah added 17,700 net new nonagricultural jobs between April 1991 and April 1992. That gain represents a growth rate of 2.4 percent—up from the low December-to-December rate of 2.1 percent. Utah job growth rates have bottomed out and are again on the upswing.

Manufacturing still provides one of the best

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THE RATE *(Seasonally Adjusted)*

Apr 1992	Utah	4.7%	U.S.	7.2%
Mar 1992	Utah	4.5%	U.S.	7.3%
Apr 1991	Utah	4.3%	U.S.	6.9%

NONFARM JOBS *(% change from a year ago)*

Apr 1992	Utah	2.4%	U.S.	0.02%

CPI-U *(Base Year 1982-84 = 100)*

Mar 1992	U.S.	139.3	Yr-over chng	3.2%

PPI *(Base Year 1982-84 = 100)*

Mar 1992	U.S.	116.1	Yr-over chng	0.0%

economic indicators this month—despite the April 1991 to April 1992 loss of 1,800 jobs. Why? The losses are getting smaller. In previous months, declines registered above 3 percent; in April, less than 2 percent. However, defense-related manufacturing continues to experience significant contraction. Employment in transportation equipment (which includes aerospace companies) is still down 11 percent.

Mine closures and layoffs in the coal industry have kept mining employment in the red. However, growth in other mining sectors has mitigated the 13-percent decline in coal.

All other major industries generated employment gains with the finance/insurance /real estate industry leading the pack. Employment in this industry has expanded 6 percent since April 1991 for a gain of 2,100 jobs. Again, "new to Utah" financial services telephone centers are primarily responsible for the expansion in this sector.

Construction continues to add jobs—but at a slower 5 percent rate. Over the past 12 months, construction employment has added 1,400 new jobs to the Utah economy. Antcipated growth in nonresidential construction added to the already robust residential situation should buoy up construction jobs.

The service industry added the largest number of new Utah jobs (6,900). Although growth has tapered off, service jobs are up a respectable 4 percent from last year. Computer services (which include software companies) and medical services continue to provide the most rapid service industry growth. Trade also made a moderate 3-percent growth rate showing by adding 5,400 Utah jobs, 5,000 of which were in the retail sector.

Transportation/communications/utilities experienced job growth slightly higher than 2 percent. Strong 8-percent expansion in both air transportation (primarily replaced airline reservation jobs) and communications offset slow- or no-growth in other areas.

Cuts in federal defense employment continue to drag on employment expansion in the public sector. Government grew less than 2 percent but still added 2,900 new jobs. State and local government experienced growth of over 3 percent which more than offset the 1,000-job loss in federal employment.

As the country pokes its nose out of the recession, Utah should see even stronger growth in the months ahead.❐

Lecia Parks Langston
Chief Economist

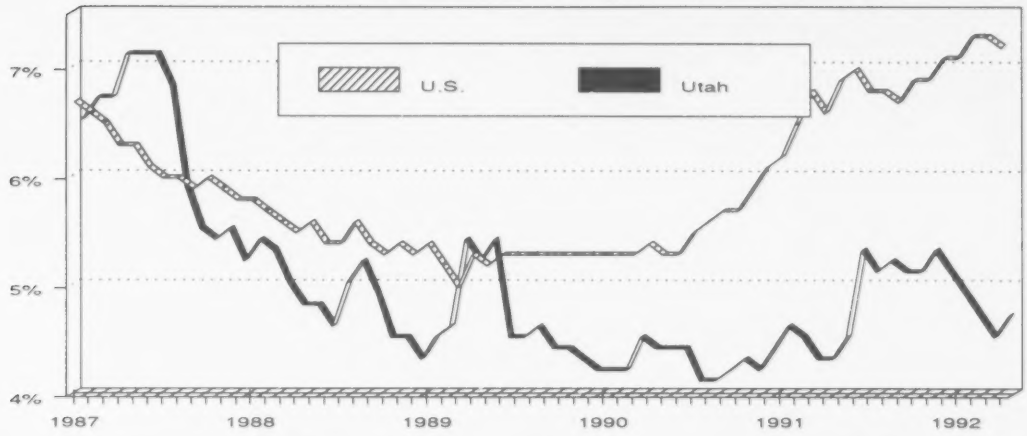
■ ***Utah's relatively strong economy is attracting jobless workers from other states.***

■ ***In contrast to past months, Utah's unemployment rate rose while the nation's rate fell.***

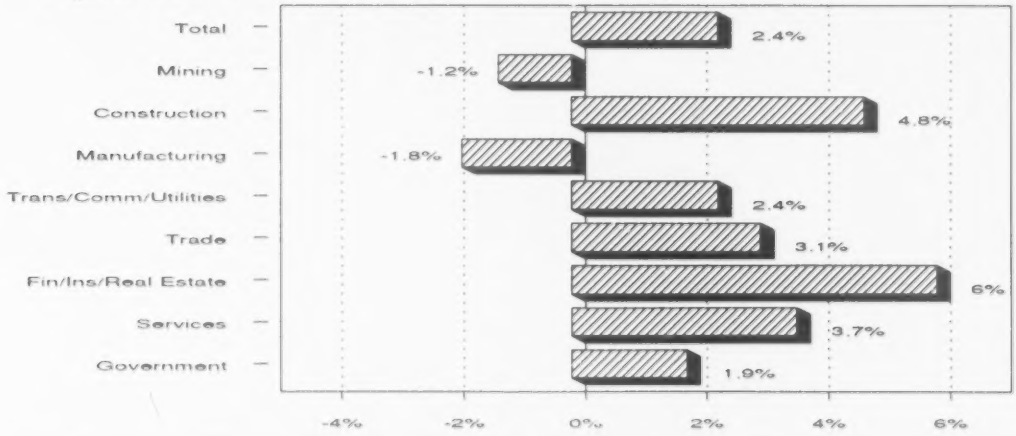
■ ***At 4.7 percent, Utah joblessness still stands 2.5 points below the national average.***

■ ***Job growth in Utah has picked up since the end of 1991 for a 2.4 percent year-over gain.***

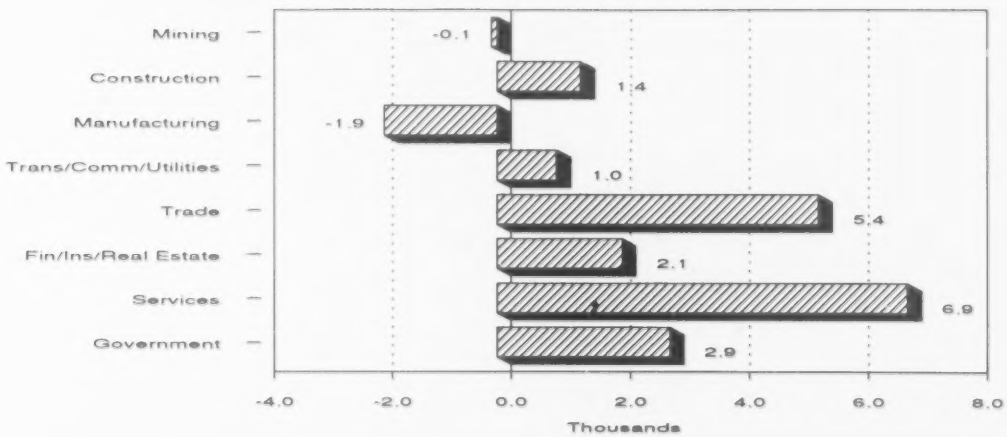
Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates



April 1991-92 Percent Growth in Nonfarm Jobs



April 1991-92 Nonfarm Job Growth



Source: U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and Utah Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Services.

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Table 1. Utah Civilian Labor Force and Nonagricultural Jobs, Not Seasonally Adjusted *(Numbers in Thousands)*

	Apr 1992(r)	Apr 1991	Percent Change	Mar 1992(p)	Feb 1992(r)
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	**809.4**	**794.6**	**1.9**	**806.8**	**804.9**
Employed	**767.4**	**757.1**	**1.4**	**766.6**	**763.9**
Unemployed	**42.0**	**37.5**	**12.0**	**40.2**	**41.0**
Percent of Labor Force	5.2	4.7	—	5.0	5.1
NONAGRICULTURAL JOBS	**754.9**	**737.2**	**2.4**	**752.2**	**747.0**
Mining	**8.3**	**8.4**	**-1.2**	**8.4**	**8.4**
Metal Mining	3.0	2.9	3.4	3.0	3.0
Bituminous Coal Mining	2.0	2.3	-13.0	2.1	2.1
Oil/Gas Extraction & Quarrying*	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.3	3.3
Contract Construction	**30.8**	**29.4**	**4.8**	**28.4**	**27.2**
Manufacturing	**102.8**	**104.7**	**-1.8**	**103.8**	**103.9**
Durable Goods	68.2	69.7	-2.2	68.8	68.8
Primary Metals	*6.0*	*6.0*	*0.0*	*5.9*	*5.9*
Fabricated Metals, Machinery, & Computers	*14.1*	*14.4*	*-2.1*	*14.2*	*14.0*
Electrical/Electric Equipment (ex. Computers)	*9.3*	*10.1*	*-7.9*	*9.3*	*9.4*
Transportation Equipment	*15.4*	*17.3*	*-11.0*	*16.0*	*16.3*
*Lumber/Furniture,Stone/Clay/Glass**	*10.2*	*9.9*	*3.0*	*10.0*	*9.9*
*Other Durable Goods**	*13.2*	*12.0*	*10.0*	*13.4*	*13.3*
Nondurable Goods	34.6	35.0	-1.1	35.0	35.1
Food & Related Products	*10.9*	*11.0*	*-0.9*	*11.3*	*11.3*
*Other Nondurable Goods**	*23.7*	*24.0*	*-1.3*	*23.7*	*23.8*
Transportation, Communications, & Utilities	**42.6**	**41.6**	**2.4**	**42.6**	**42.6**
Railroad Transportation	2.5	2.5	0.0	2.5	2.5
Trucking & Warehousing	15.2	15.0	1.3	15.1	15.0
Transportation by Air*	7.0	6.5	7.7	7.0	7.1
Other Transportation & Related Services*	3.1	3.2	-3.1	3.3	3.3
Communications	7.0	6.5	7.7	7.0	7.0
Electric, Gas, & Sanitary Services	7.8	7.9	-1.3	7.7	7.7
Trade	**180.0**	**174.6**	**3.1**	**178.9**	**177.9**
Wholesale Trade	41.3	40.9	1.0	41.0	40.9
*Durable Goods**	*24.3*	*24.5*	*-0.8*	*23.9*	*23.9*
*Nondurable Goods**	*17.0*	*16.4*	*3.7*	*17.1*	*17.0*
Retail Trade	138.7	133.7	3.7	137.9	137.0
Food Stores	*24.3*	*23.4*	*3.8*	*24.3*	*24.2*
Auto Dealers/Parts Stores, & Gas Stations	*15.3*	*15.6*	*-1.9*	*15.0*	*14.8*
Eating & Drinking Places	*46.0*	*43.8*	*5.0*	*45.6*	*44.7*
*Home Furniture/Equipment & Clothing Stores**	*12.9*	*11.8*	*9.3*	*13.0*	*13.1*
*Gen. Merchandise/Building & Garden Supply**	*22.9*	*22.0*	*4.1*	*22.6*	*22.7*
Miscellaneous Retail	*17.3*	*17.1*	*1.2*	*17.4*	*17.5*
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	**37.3**	**35.2**	**6.0**	**37.3**	**36.9**
Depository Institutions*	13.6	13.2	3.0	13.5	13.4
Other Finance/Insurance/Real Estate*	23.7	22.0	7.7	23.8	23.5
Services	**193.8**	**186.9**	**3.7**	**194.0**	**191.7**
Hotels & Lodging Places	12.7	12.6	0.8	13.2	12.9
Personal, Amusement & Recreational*	18.4	17.7	4.0	19.0	18.8
Computer-Related*	9.9	9.2	7.6	9.8	9.8
Other Business Services*	31.3	30.6	2.3	31.3	30.6
Auto Repair/Rental/Parking*	6.6	6.5	1.5	6.6	6.5
Health	50.1	47.3	5.9	49.9	49.6
Education/Social & Membership Organizations*	38.7	38.2	1.3	38.5	38.3
Legal & Miscellaneous Services	5.5	5.2	5.8	5.4	5.4
Engineering, Accounting, & Related*	15.1	14.2	6.3	15.4	15.2
Other Repair/Ag. Services & Museums, etc.*	5.5	5.4	1.9	4.9	4.6
Government	**159.3**	**156.4**	**1.9**	**158.8**	**158.4**
Federal Government	38.4	39.4	-2.5	38.4	38.1
*U.S. Defense**	*18.2*	*19.6*	*-7.1*	*18.5*	*18.5*
*Other Federal**	*20.2*	*19.8*	*2.0*	*19.9*	*19.6*
State Government	46.0	44.5	3.4	45.7	46.2
*State Education**	*25.7*	*24.9*	*3.2*	*25.4*	*25.9*
*Other State**	*20.3*	*19.6*	*3.6*	*20.3*	*20.3*
Local Government	74.9	72.5	3.3	74.7	74.1
Local Education	*47.9*	*46.8*	*2.4*	*48.0*	*47.7*
*Other Local**	*27.0*	*25.7*	*5.1*	*26.7*	*26.4*

Source: Utah Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Services. Prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). NOTE: Forecast data and cells marked by an asterisk (*) are not sanctioned by BLS. Some figures are not strictly comparable due to reclassification.

ADJUSTED

Table 2. Utah Civilian Labor Force and Nonagricultural Jobs Seasonally Adjusted *(Numbers In Thousands)*

	Apr 1992(f)	Apr 1991	Percent Change	Mar 1992(p)	Feb 1992(r)
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	**817.7**	**802.9**	**1.8**	**817.9**	**818.0**
Employed	**779.1**	**768.6**	**1.4**	**781.5**	**779.4**
Unemployed	**38.6**	**34.3**	**12.5**	**36.4**	**38.6**
Percent of Labor Force	4.7	4.3	---	4.5	4.7
NONAGRICULTURAL JOBS	**756.3**	**738.7**	**2.4**	**757.0**	**756.9**
Mining	**8.5**	**8.6**	**-1.2**	**8.3**	**8.3**
Contract Construction	**33.0**	**31.5**	**4.8**	**32.3**	**32.5**
Manufacturing	**103.5**	**105.4**	**-1.8**	**104.7**	**105.4**
Durable Goods	68.6	70.1	-2.2	69.4	69.8
Nondurable Goods	35.0	35.4	-1.1	35.4	35.7
Trans., Comm., Public Utilities	**42.7**	**41.7**	**2.4**	**43.0**	**43.1**
Trade	**182.8**	**177.4**	**3.0**	**182.6**	**182.7**
Wholesale	41.5	41.2	0.7	41.3	41.5
Retail	141.3	136.2	3.7	141.3	141.3
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	**37.3**	**35.2**	**6.0**	**37.3**	**37.1**
Services	**192.4**	**185.6**	**3.7**	**192.8**	**191.4**
Government	**156.0**	**153.2**	**1.8**	**156.0**	**156.4**
Federal Government	38.1	39.0	-2.5	38.4	38.4
State Government	44.9	43.4	3.4	44.2	44.6
Local Government	73.1	70.8	3.3	73.4	73.3

Source: Utah Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Services.

HOURS AND EARNINGS

Table 3. Hours and Earnings of Production Workers in Utah

	Average Hourly Earnings				Average Weekly Hours			
	Mar 1992(p)	Mar 1991	% Chng	Feb 1992(r)	Mar 1992(p)	Mar 1991	% Chng	Feb 1992(r)
MINING	**$15.15**	**$14.84**	**2.1**	**$15.31**	**44.4**	**44.2**	**0.5**	**44.7**
Metal Mining	13.86	13.47	2.9	14.10	45.3	46.4	-2.4	44.1
Bituminous Coal Mining	18.12	17.32	4.6	18.29	50.7	39.1	29.7	51.9
MANUFACTURING	**11.04**	**10.57**	**4.4**	**11.08**	**40.0**	**39.6**	**1.0**	**40.0**
Durable Goods	11.30	10.73	5.3	11.24	40.5	39.8	1.8	40.1
Primary Metals	14.05	13.08	7.4	14.03	42.2	40.8	3.4	42.3
Fabricated Metal Prod. and Mach.	11.07	10.28	7.7	10.80	40.0	39.5	1.3	39.5
Transportation Equipment	14.12	13.18	7.1	14.61	41.1	40.8	0.7	41.5
Nondurable Goods	10.52	10.26	2.5	10.80	39.0	39.4	-1.0	39.9
Food and Kindred Products	9.57	9.00	6.3	9.79	38.8	40.5	-4.2	39.3
TRADE	**7.90**	**7.53**	**4.9**	**7.99**	**28.2**	**28.0**	**0.7**	**28.4**
Wholesale	10.17	10.24	-0.7	10.29	35.8	36.0	-0.6	35.6
Retail	7.07	6.51	8.6	7.15	26.2	25.4	3.1	26.5
Food Stores	7.58	6.45	17.5	7.59	24.9	25.4	-2.0	25.4
General Merchandise	6.25	6.34	-1.7	6.35	24.9	25.7	-3.1	26.3

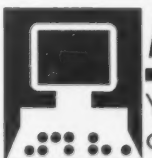
Note: Average hours include hours actually worked or remunerated. Average hourly earnings include incentive and premium pay. Data may be affected by labor disputes.

Source: Utah Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Services. Prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Economic Events

Please note: Information contained in Economic Events is obtained from regional newspapers, local Job Service offices, trade publications, clipping services, and local area Chamber of Commerce publications.

- Morton International, the large automotive air bag producer, announced that it has purchased the former Volvo-GM truck assembly plant in Ogden. The 250,000 square-foot plant will be refurbished in the coming months and will house a major portion of the company's rapidly expanding operation.
- PayLess Drug Stores, the large subsidiary of the Kmart Corporation, announced that it will build a $50 million distribution center near Ogden. The 610,000 square-foot facility will be located in the Weber Industrial Park north of Ogden. The center is scheduled to be finished in 1993, and employment is projected at 310 workers. The Center's annual payroll is estimated at around $7 million.
- Stott Inc., The Salt Lake City steel fabrication and erection company that had recently filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection, has been purchased by a new Utah corporation, SME Industries, Inc. Stott's assets were acquired for $2.75 million. The new owners will continue to operate the facility as a steel fabrication and erection concern. The buyout has kept alive the jobs of roughly 200 workers.
- A new proposed gas pipeline between Evanston, Wyoming, and the Whitney Canyon gas-processing plant will run through parts of Summit and Rich counties providing a boost in taxes and royalties. Union Pacific Resources is developing the 41-mile pipeline—with eight miles in Summit County and 27 in Rich County. Project construction is expected to last six months and employ 125 workers.
- A fast-growing California steel company will relocate its corporate headquarters to Lindon. Schaeffer Industries, which processes, reforms, and distributes steel, is making the move to the site of its Western Coil Processing subsidiary in Lindon. The company also has two other divisions, Western Flat Rolled Steel Co., and American Rollforming and Manufacturing, both of which will remain in California. The company is expanding its presence into the Rock Mountain and Midwest Regions, and was looking for a centrally located corporate headquarters.
- A new business park name Riverwoods is being developed in north Provo. Three major Utah Valley employers have already purchased land in the park—Dynix, Universal Campus Credit Union, and WordPerfect. Dynix is tripling the size of its business, and plans to open its new facility early next year. Universal Campus Credit Union will locate its corporate headquarters in the park, while WordPerfect has not revealed the intended use for its purchased land.❐



Electronic Bulletin Board

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Five of Utah's planning districts showed higher unemployment rates

The current jobless rates for most districts are slightly-to-moderately higher than the respective year-ago figures—but none are drastically higher.

Year-over growth rates in nonfarm employment varied widely among planning districts, but there were no net job losses. Current job growth data indicate a slight economic improvement in most of Utah since the end of 1991.

Southwestern District, with job growth of nearly 5 percent, leads all districts of the State. Iron County's economy is growing rapidly, Washington County continues its moderate growth, and both have unemployment rates slightly higher than the State average. In contrast, within the same district Garfield County experienced the worst job loss (9 percent decline) and the highest unemployment rate (17 percent) in the State.

On the strength of Cache County's rapid job growth, Bear River District has nearly 4 percent more jobs than in April 1991. But Box Elder County, due to defense-related manufacturing cutbacks, has lost a few jobs in the past twelve months. However, its unemployment rate remains a very low 4 percent. The District average is 4.5 percent, one of the lowest in the State.

Utah's metropolitan counties—Salt Lake, Utah, Davis, and Weber —are all experiencing job growth in the 1.0-to-2.5 percent range. Because of cutbacks in defense-related jobs, Davis County's job growth is only 1 percent. But, its unemployment rate is 4 percent. Weber County's job growth and unemployment rate, at 2 and 5.5 percent respectively, reflect recent layoffs.

Salt Lake and Utah counties have similar current labor market indicators: Job growth at 2.5 percent and unemployment rates near 4 percent. They have weathered the national recession remarkably well but will continued to be affected by defense-related cutbacks in the next two or three years.

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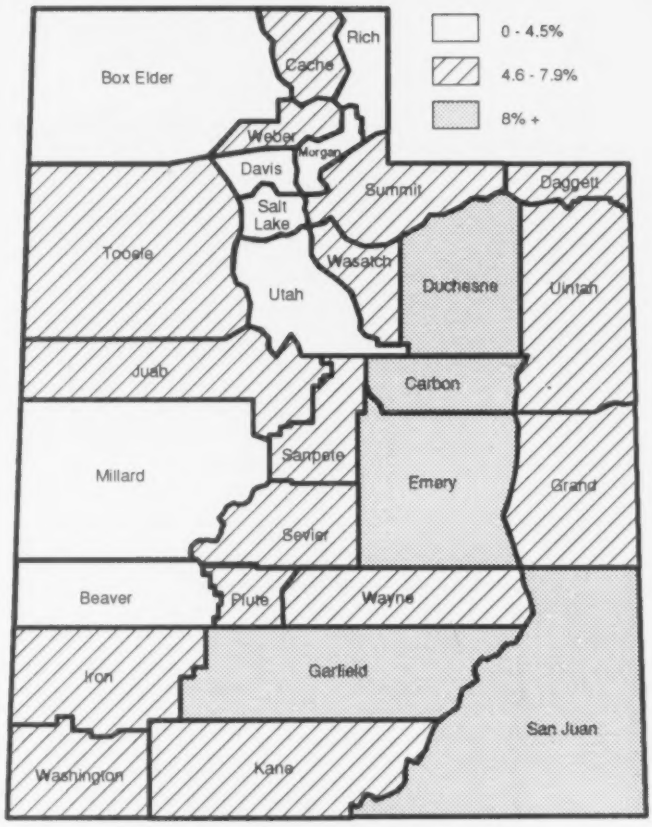


Unemployment Rates April 1992

■ ***Current job growth data indicate a slight economic improvement since the end of 1991.***

■ ***Summit County's recreation-based economy is enjoying rapid job growth and moderate unemployment.***

■ ***Southwestern District, with job growth of nearly 5 percent, leads all districts of the State.***

Continued from page 7

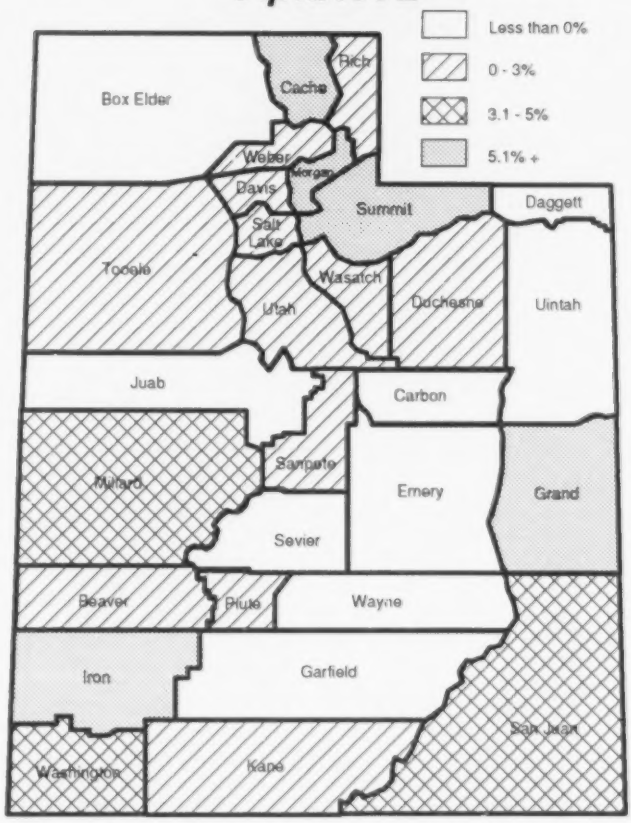
Summit County's recreation-based economy, is enjoying rapid job growth and moderate unemployment. Morgan County also seems to be benefiting from nearby Davis and Weber counties.

Utah's perennial economically distressed districts—Uintah Basin, Southeastern, and Central—experienced virtually no job growth. Unemployment rates in Southeastern and Uintah Basin are near 8 percent; but the Central District's rate, apparently because of a random fluctuation, has fallen to 6 percent.

Nevertheless, even these districts have a few bright spots. In fact, Grand County, one of the shining stars in the entire State, is enjoying a tourism-based boom with year-over job growth near 10 percent ❐

Kenneth E. Jensen
Labor Market Economist

Year-Over Percent Change in Nonfarm Jobs April 1992



METRO AREAS

Table 4. Civilian Labor Force and Nonfarm Jobs for SaltLake/Ogden and Provo/Orem Metropolitan Statistical Areas *(Numbers in Thousands)*

	Salt Lake/Ogden					Provo/Orem				
	Apr 1992(f)	Apr 1991	Percent Change	Mar 1992(p)	Feb 1992(r)	Apr 1992(f)	Apr 1991	Percent Change	Mar 1992(p)	Feb 1992(r)
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	**521.0**	**511.3**	**1.9**	**520.3**	**519.7**	120.4	**119.1**	**1.1**	**121.1**	**121.4**
Employed	495.4	489.2	1.3	496.4	495.1	115.5	114.5	0.9	115.9	115.8
Unemployed	25.6	22.1	15.8	23.9	24.6	4.9	4.6	6.5	5.2	5.6
Rate	4.9	4.3	—	4.6	4.7	4.1	3.9	—	4.3	4.6
TOTAL NONFARM JOBS	**512.3**	**501.4**	**2.2**	**509.5**	**506.2**	101.0	**98.6**	**2.4**	**100.9**	**100.3**
Mining	3.2	2.9	10.3	3.1	3.1	.1	.1	0.0	.1	.1
Construction	20.8	20.3	2.5	19.2	18.4	4.3	4.0	7.5	3.9	3.8
Manufacturing	66.2	67.7	-2.2	66.8	66.6	13.6	14.0	-2.9	13.8	13.7
Durable	45.1	46.7	-3.4	45.5	45.3	8.8	8.9	-1.1	8.9	8.8
Nondurable	21.1	21.0	0.5	21.3	21.3	4.8	5.1	-5.9	4.9	4.9
Trans/Comm/Utilities	33.3	32.3	3.1	33.3	33.4	2.3	2.5	-8.0	2.3	2.2
Trade	125.6	122.5	2.5	125.1	124.7	23.4	22.4	4.5	23.2	23.1
Wholesale	32.9	32.9	0.0	32.8	32.7	5.1	4.8	6.3	5.0	5.0
Retail	92.7	89.6	3.5	92.3	92.0	18.3	17.6	4.0	18.2	18.1
Fin/Ins/Real Estate	30.9	29.0	6.6	30.7	30.3	2.4	2.3	4.3	2.4	2.4
Service	129.3	124.9	3.5	128.8	127.2	39.1	37.9	3.2	39.3	39.3
Government	103.0	101.8	1.2	102.5	102.5	15.8	15.4	2.6	15.9	15.7

Source: Utah Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Services

By County

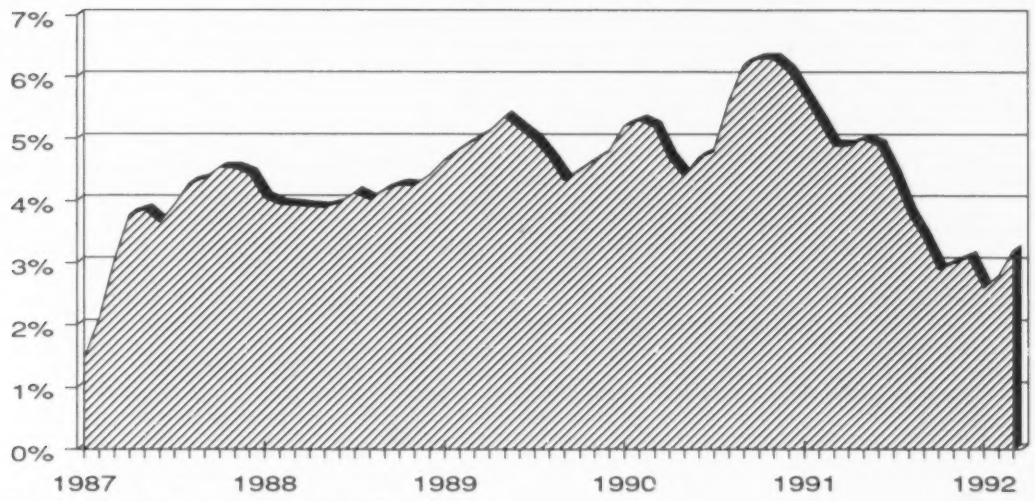
Table 4. Unemployment Rates and Nonfarm Jobs in Utah by County

	Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate				Nonfarm Wage and Salary Jobs				
	Apr 1992(f)	Mar 1992(p)	Feb 1992(r)	Apr 1991	Apr 1992(f)	Apr 1991	Percent Change	Mar 1992(p)	Feb 1992(r)
STATE TOTAL	**4.7**	**4.5**	**4.7**	**4.3**	**754,900**	**737,180**	**2.4**	**752,200**	**747,000**
Bear River	**4.5**	**4.1**	**4.2**	**4.5**	**46,410**	**44,750**	**3.7**	**46,300**	**44,295**
Box Elder	3.9	3.2	4.3	3.4	15,030	15,080	-0.3	14,950	15,033
Cache	4.9	4.5	4.2	5.0	31,020	29,310	5.8	31,000	30,913
Rich	3.8	2.2	2.7	2.2	360	360	0.0	350	349
Wasatch Front	**4.5**	**4.1**	**4.4**	**3.9**	**523,460**	**512,390**	**2.2**	**520,860**	**514,413**
Wasatch Front North	**4.8**	**4.3**	**4.7**	**4.5**	**128,990**	**126,960**	**1.6**	**127,450**	**126,716**
Davis	4.1	3.8	4.2	3.9	59,020	58,360	1.1	57,870	58,010
Morgan	3.9	4.9	5.0	5.2	1,090	1,010	7.9	1,080	1,051
Weber	5.5	4.9	5.2	5.1	68,880	67,590	1.9	68,500	67,655
Wasatch Front South	**4.4**	**3.9**	**4.3**	**3.7**	**394,470**	**385,430**	**2.3**	**393,410**	**390,697**
Salt Lake	4.4	3.9	4.3	3.7	384,390	375,460	2.4	383,300	380,602
Tooele	4.8	4.9	5.4	4.2	10,080	9,970	1.1	10,110	10,095
Mountainland	**4.1**	**4.0**	**4.4**	**4.0**	**112,500**	**109,030**	**3.2**	**113,740**	**113,115**
Summit	5.8	5.5	5.6	6.4	8,980	8,000	12.3	10,530	10,460
Utah	3.9	3.8	4.2	3.7	100,920	98,470	2.5	100,790	100,280
Wasatch	7.2	7.6	8.1	7.0	2,600	2,560	1.6	2,420	2,375
Central	**6.2**	**6.8**	**6.7**	**7.1**	**15,250**	**15,170**	**0.5**	**15,060**	**14,762**
Juab	7.4	7.7	8.4	5.1	1,930	1,980	-2.5	1,900	1,895
Millard	4.3	5.1	4.5	4.8	3,440	3,320	3.6	3,400	3,370
Piute	5.7	5.6	7.3	14.8	200	200	0.0	200	203
Sanpete	7.4	9.4	8.2	10.3	4,210	4,120	2.2	4,230	4,175
Sevier	6.3	5.5	6.0	6.0	4,950	5,010	-1.2	4,870	4,865
Wayne	6.2	6.8	8.5	7.5	520	540	-3.7	460	457
Southwestern	**5.8**	**5.0**	**5.6**	**5.1**	**29,200**	**27,850**	**4.8**	**28,610**	**28,098**
Beaver	4.4	4.1	4.9	4.4	1,410	1,370	2.9	1,430	1,433
Garfield	16.8	17.2	19.7	12.9	1,280	1,400	-8.6	1,110	1,050
Iron	5.4	3.4	4.2	4.5	8,570	7,850	9.2	8,520	8,335
Kane	7.9	7.8	8.4	8.0	1,540	1,500	2.7	1,350	1,290
Washington	5.1	4.6	4.9	4.6	16,400	15,730	4.3	16,200	15,990
Uintah Basin	**7.8**	**6.2**	**6.8**	**5.8**	**11,080**	**11,070**	**0.1**	**10,910**	**10,895**
Daggett	6.5	4.3	4.2	1.9	310	340	-8.8	260	253
Duchesne	8.3	6.2	7.2	6.6	3,890	3,810	2.1	3,880	3,903
Uintah	7.6	6.3	6.7	5.6	6,880	6,920	-0.6	6,770	6,740
Southeastern	**8.3**	**8.3**	**8.4**	**7.1**	**17,030**	**16,970**	**0.4**	**16,760**	**16,218**
Carbon	8.4	9.3	8.1	6.3	7,420	7,710	-3.8	7,520	7,415
Emery	9.4	9.0	9.6	8.0	3,340	3,360	-0.6	3,290	3,264
Grand	6.5	5.8	7.6	6.7	2,800	2,570	8.9	2,580	2,314
San Juan	8.7	8.0	8.5	8.5	3,470	3,330	4.2	3,370	3,225
Salt Lake/Ogden MSA	**4.5**	**4.0**	**4.4**	**3.9**	**512,290**	**501,410**	**2.2**	**509,670**	**506,270**
Provo/Orem MSA	**3.9**	**3.8**	**4.2**	**3.7**	**100,920**	**98,470**	**2.5**	**100,790**	**100,280**

Source: Utah Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Services.

Note: Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates should not be used for federal or state funding applications.

Year-over Percent Increase in U.S. Consumer Price Index



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

PRICES

Table 6. Current U.S. Price Indexes

	INDEX		% CHANGE FROM	
	Mar 1992	Mar 1991	Prior Year	Prior Month
CONSUMER PRICES (1982-84=100)				
ALL ITEMS (CPI-U[1])	**139.3**	**135.0**	**3.2**	**0.5**
Food and Beverages	138.8	136.3	1.8	0.5
Food at Home	137.5	136.0	1.1	0.7
Housing	136.6	132.6	3.0	0.4
Rent Residential	146.4	142.0	3.1	0.5
Fuel and Other Utilities	115.8	114.1	1.5	-0.1
Medical Care	187.3	173.7	7.8	0.6
Apparel and Upkeep	133.4	128.8	3.6	2.5
Transportation	124.4	122.3	1.7	0.2
Gasoline	93.2	94.2	-1.1	0.5
Energy[3]	98.9	99.7	-0.8	-0.1
PURCHASING POWER OF CONSUMER DOLLAR: (1982-84 = $1.00)	**$0.718**	**$0.741**	**-3.1**	**-0.6**
ALL ITEMS (CPI-W[2])	**137.0**	**133.0**	**3.0**	**0.4**
PRODUCER PRICES (1982 = 100)				
ALL COMMODITIES	**116.1**	**116.1**	**0.0**	**0.0**
Finished Goods	122.0	120.9	0.9	0.1
Intermediate Materials	113.6	114.2	-0.5	0.0
Crude Materials	98.6	101.2	-2.6	-0.4

1 Consumer Price Index—All Urban Consumers.

2 Consumer Price Index—Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers.

3 Energy is a special group index consisting of prices paid for the following: fuel oil, coal, bottled gas, electricity, gasoline, and motor oil and coolant. It is not one of the components of the "All Items" as its sub-components are already included.

Source: U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statisitcs.

1992 Summer Job Prospects for Utah's Youth and Outlook for College Graduates

The national economy is recovering. What does that mean for students looking for summer employment—and college graduates searching for that first professional position?

Good News! School will soon be out for the summer and students will have the opportunity to earn some extra money to invest in new CDs (and I don't mean financial CDs), a pair of rollerblades, a savings account for college, or whatever else they may desire. It's time to think about summer job opportunities! This article is dedicated to giving Utah's youth information about the labor market, their competition, the industries that will be hiring, and some good advice that will help them find a great summer job.

More young people

Utah has a young population compared to the rest of the nation. The average age here is 26, while the average age for the country is about 32. In Utah, the youth group (16 to 24 year-olds) is expected to show continued growth in 1992-about 270,000 in 1992 versus 265,000 in 1991. Even with this increase, youth in Utah's labor force have a fair outlook for summer jobs in 1992. The national recession has impacted Utah's economy so the outlook isn't quite as good as last year. Retail trade and services industries, which usually provide the greatest number of summer job opportunities for youth, have grown a combined total of about 3.5 percent from a year ago. Construction, another provider of youth jobs, has increased 5 percent from a year ago. The agriculture industry has maintained its status quo.

While Utah has felt some of the repercussions of the national recession, it has not dramatically affected the Utah labor market. The unemployment rate is currently 4.7 percent in Utah, while the national unemployment rate is 7.2 percent. This means the youth in Utah should have an easier time finding a job than the youth in more economically troubled states. However, because there is a higher population of youth in Utah (and a higher percentage of them want jobs) there may be more competition for the available jobs. Employment grew about 3 percent during 1991 and the average number of people employed monthly was 763,000. The monthly average number of people seeking employment in Utah was 37,000, so you can expect some healthy competition out there in our active labor market.

Total nonagricultural employment has increased about 2.4 percent over the past 12 months. The number of job openings listed at the Utah Job Service locations have averaged about 8,000 per month during 1992, this number has remained stable since 1991. However, the number of unemployed persons is roughly 41,000 which is about 5,000 more than a year ago. This is probably an effect of the national recession and cutbacks in defense spending.

Utah weathered the recession

Almost all of the major industries in Utah seem to have weathered the national recession quite well. Construction continued to grow with a 5 percent increase compared to this time last year. The finance\insurance\real estate industry increased 6 percent and the services industry increased 4 percent. Retail trade grew 3 percent, while government and transportation/communications/utilities trailed at about 2 percent. Mining did not experience any growth and manufacturing decreased slightly. All of this means that the national recession has had some impact upon the Utah labor market, therefore, you will have to work harder this year to find a good summer job.

The current 2.4 percent increase in non-agricultural jobs means there have been about 17,700 new jobs introduced to the labor market this year. That's good news for the job seeker, but if that doesn't inspire you this might: the Utah job market generates many times more actual job opportunities. In other words, jobs created by economic growth do not have to be your only hope because people are constantly changing jobs, retiring, or leaving the Utah labor market for other reasons. This activity results in approximately 120,000 opportunities during the months of June, July, and August. About one-eighth of the job opportunities are caused by growth while nearly seven-eighths result from turnover and replacement.

During the last 15 years, Utah has experienced an average net gain of approximately 5,000 new non-

agricultural jobs each year during the months of June, July, and August. A net increase of approximately 4,000 nonagricultural jobs is expected this summer.

The 16-24 year olds account for about 24 percent of Utah's labor force. During the three summer months, this share increases to nearly 30 percent. This change occurs because approximately 90 percent of the increased size of the labor force during the summer (23,000 this year) is accounted for by the influx of students who have been attending high schools, colleges, and universities but not actively seeking work during the school year.

U.S. youth dropping out

Nationally only 63.6 percent of the 16-24 year olds were employed during July of 1991; this is down from 67.1 percent in 1990 and 69.2 percent in 1989. Across the nation many young workers have decided not to enter the job market until the economy shows some recovery. Labor force participation rates for 16-19 year olds dropped from 56 percent in 1989 to 51 percent in 1991. During times of recession companies tend to cut back workers with fewer skills and less experience, therefore, young workers are usually the first to lose their jobs. This seems to be a common occurrence during recessionary periods. However, the Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that youth participation in the national labor force will increase during the 1990s.

The summer flood of youth into the Utah labor market impacts unemployment. Typically, the youth group (16-24 year olds) accounts for about 44 percent of the unemployed people who are looking for work. During the three summer months, this share increases to about 60 percent. Those 16-19 years of age usually account for 23 percent of the unemployed, but that share rises to nearly 40 percent during the summer months. National statistics show that during 1991 employment for 16-24 year olds was 2,331,000 higher in July than April. Most of this increase was due to youth entering the workforce for the summer.

Where will the jobs be?

Of the 120,000 expected job opportunities this summer, 60 percent will be in the services and retail trade industries. Construction, manufacturing, and government will account for about 27 percent. The remaining 13 percent includes transportation/communication/utilities, wholesale trade, and finance/insurance/real estate.

The services industry covers many different areas: it is not limited to janitorial work and doesn't usually include sales clerks who are employed in retail trade. This industry is the largest industry in the State and it includes many interesting employment opportunities.

Within the services industry, most new hires will occur in business services (13,000), health services (6,000), and hotels (3,800). Another 1,000 to 3,000 will occur in engineering and management, amusement and recreation, automotive repair, personal, social, membership organizations, and miscellaneous services.

Fast food restaurants seem to be hiring again this year; many of them have "Help Wanted" signs out and would probably love to hire ambitious youth for summer and part time work. For retail trade, nearly one-half of the total jobs, or 16,000 will be in eating and drinking establishments. This category remains the largest single group for openings among all industries. Other major contributors will be food stores (4,000), automotive dealers and service stations (3,600), miscellaneous retail and general merchandise (7,000).

Construction employment is projected to increase slightly from 1991. This is another excellent area for youth to look for summer job opportunities. Special trade contractors in plumbing, electrical, painting, masonry, concrete, roofing, and carpentering will offer about 5,000 jobs. Residential building jobs will account for 3,400 openings, and heavy construction will add 1,500 jobs.

Manufacturing jobs will occur mostly in food (1,900), printing and publication (1,500), fabricated metal products (1,000), and apparel (1,000). Other significant numbers of job opportunities will be in government (11,800), motor freight transportation or warehousing (5,000), wholesale trade (3,300), real estate (1,600), and depository institutions (1,100).

No experience?

You're worried about experience? Well, to some extent you should worry, because a concern of many employers is the lack of training in potential employees. That's a good reason for you to get additional training or education after high school (not to mention the financial benefits). But for now, we are just talking summer job opportunities and these types of jobs don't always require extensive experience. Many jobs such as cashiers, construction laborers, food counter and related help, and general office workers can be trained on the job.

Most summer jobs available to youth are unskilled and semi-skilled occupations. As you get older and more experienced, there will be more options open to you and it will become easier to find a job because your skills will be more marketable. Most of the unskilled occupations offer minimum wage, but some occupations such as construction laborers, short order cooks, and general office clerks usually pay more. Listed on the opposite page are some occupations you may want to consider for summer employment.

fast food worker
construction laborer
general office clerk
sales clerk
receptionist
typist/data entry
hotel and motel maid
waiter/waitress
landscape laborer
short order cook
sprinkler installer
recreation worker
delivery driver & helper
warehouse worker
child care attendant
farm worker
telephone solicitor
grocery clerk
material handler and dock worker

If you are in college or planning to attend college you may want to consider an internship. If you get a job you may want to find out if you can get college credit for the work you are doing. Sometimes the pay for internships is rather low but the experience gained and the college credit earned would make it worth your while. An internship that doesn't pay anything may also be the answer if you can't find a job; once you gain experience it could turn into a paying job. Call the placement center at your school or go directly to the individual departments at your university or college for information on internships.

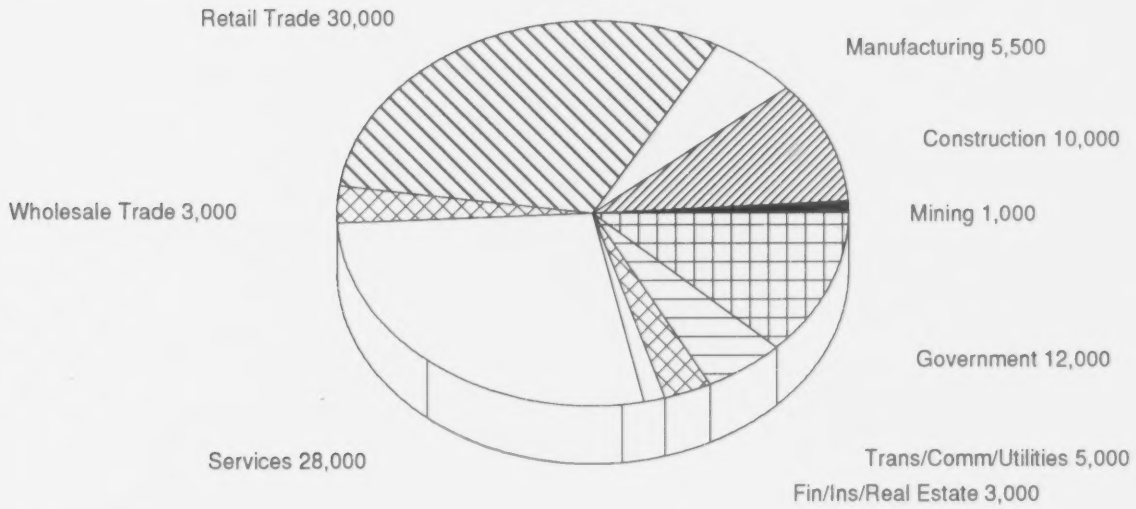
Valuable Advice

Now, here is the most valuable piece of advice you will receive from this article—GET MOVING! You are facing a tough market this year and the longer you procrastinate the less chance you will have of getting a good summer job. Start your summer job search early, it may impress employers and chances are you'll have more options than those who wait until the last minute. Don't limit yourself to one type of job. Explore many different occupations-it may give you some insight and direction in pursuing a career later in life.

Be creative in your search, and utilize all your resources. Read the want-ads in the newspaper, check out the job boards at the universities and colleges, go to a temporary help agency, use your personal connections by telling your friends and family you are looking for work, fill out applications for places that hire summer help, and, of course, there are the Utah Job Service Offices.

Don't be afraid to apply for a job you feel you aren't fully qualified for, because you may be underestimating your skills. Confidence and determination are essential to a successful job search. Finally, don't let all of these doom and gloom economic reports intimidate you. There are many opportunities out there, you must be willing to take the time and exert the energy to find them. Good luck!

Utah 1992 Job Opportunities for Summer Employment



Source: Utah Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Services.

Outlook for College Graduates

The national recession is casting its gloomy shadow over the job outlook for 1992 college graduates throughout the United States. However, many economists and companies report they are beginning to see some light at the end of the tunnel and though economic recovery may be slow, things are looking up. The labor market in Utah is doing rather well compared to the rest of the nation. Nationally the unemployment rate is 7.2 percent while Utah's unemployment rate is about 4.7 percent.

The job outlook for 1992 college graduates in Utah isn't as bright as 1990s. For each of the next three years, approximately 40,000 job openings will occur in the Utah labor market. The majority of these positions, 60 percent (about 24,000), will replace current workers who leave the labor force. The remaining 40 percent (about 16,000) will result from growth in the economy. Only about 20 percent (or one in five) of these jobs will require a four year degree, but over 50 percent of the jobs require some form of higher education or postsecondary training.

Most find jobs

National statistics show that about 92 percent of the college graduates who enter the job market through the year 2000 will be able to find college level jobs. The demand for college graduates arises when there is an increase in the demand for employees in an occupation requiring a degree, when there is a need to replace college graduates who leave the job market, and when jobs which don't traditionally require college education are upgraded. The national projected job openings for the period of 1988-2000 is over 21.6 million. This is an average of about 1,800,000 each year. The number of jobs requiring a four-year degree are expected to increase 50 percent during this time period. The number of college graduates entering the market will exceed the number of openings requiring four-year degrees, but this will average out to an oversupply of less than 8 percent.

People who decide to continue their education after high school earn a significant amount more than those who do not. Nationally vocational school graduates earn 20-50 percent more than high school graduates in male dominated fields and 50-90 percent more in female dominated fields.

In Utah, the job category of professional, paraprofessional, and technical occupations is projected to have a growth rate of 2.1 percent per year form 1990 through 1995. These occupations include accountants, teachers, engineers, nurses, writers, lawyers, and computer programmers. Sales occupations are also expected to grow at a rate of 2.1 percent per year through 1995. The sales category occupations include sales representatives, sales clerks, and sales agents.

Managerial and administrative occupations are expected to grow at less than 1.8 percent per year. Nationally the field showing the most potential for growth is health care. The health care industry added 383,000 jobs during 1990-91, and 9 percent of total non-agricultural jobs are found in health care, up from 3 percent in 1960. Biotechnology, chemical engineering, and environmental engineering are also fields currently showing growth potential.

Fewer graduates hired

Nationally, the number of new college graduates companies hire has dropped 30 percent since 1989. Many companies are able to hire workers with experience who have been laid off from another job instead of hiring new college graduates. Some companies may be waiting to see if the recession is truly over before expanding or hiring new people.

Locally, recruiting on college campuses has decreased about 30 percent this year compared to 1991. The companies recruiting are primarily looking for engineering, business, accounting, and computer science students. Brigham Young University has seen an increase in the recruitment of education students. In Utah county, many of the local companies recruit college graduates from the local colleges and Universities. However, there are many local companies looking for workers that don't participate in the formal recruiting process at the universities or colleges. There may be opportunities for graduates to look for jobs with small local companies that have good growth potential.

The University of Utah currently lists between 30,000 to 50,000 jobs. October, November, and February are the most popular months for recruiting at the University of Utah. Six months after graduation about 95 percent of the students registered with the placement center have jobs. Of this 95 percent, only 10-15 percent of the graduates consider their jobs to be temporary.

A tough job market

College graduates will be facing a tough job market this year, but when the going gets tough the tough don't sit around and whine about the unemployment rate. The tough put together a good resume, they become flexible about pay and location, they look into industries that are flourishing despite the recession, and they resolve to work very hard to find a job because they know good jobs exist. The recession is winding down which means many companies will start hiring again, and the tough that stay on their toes will reap the benefits of their hard work.❐

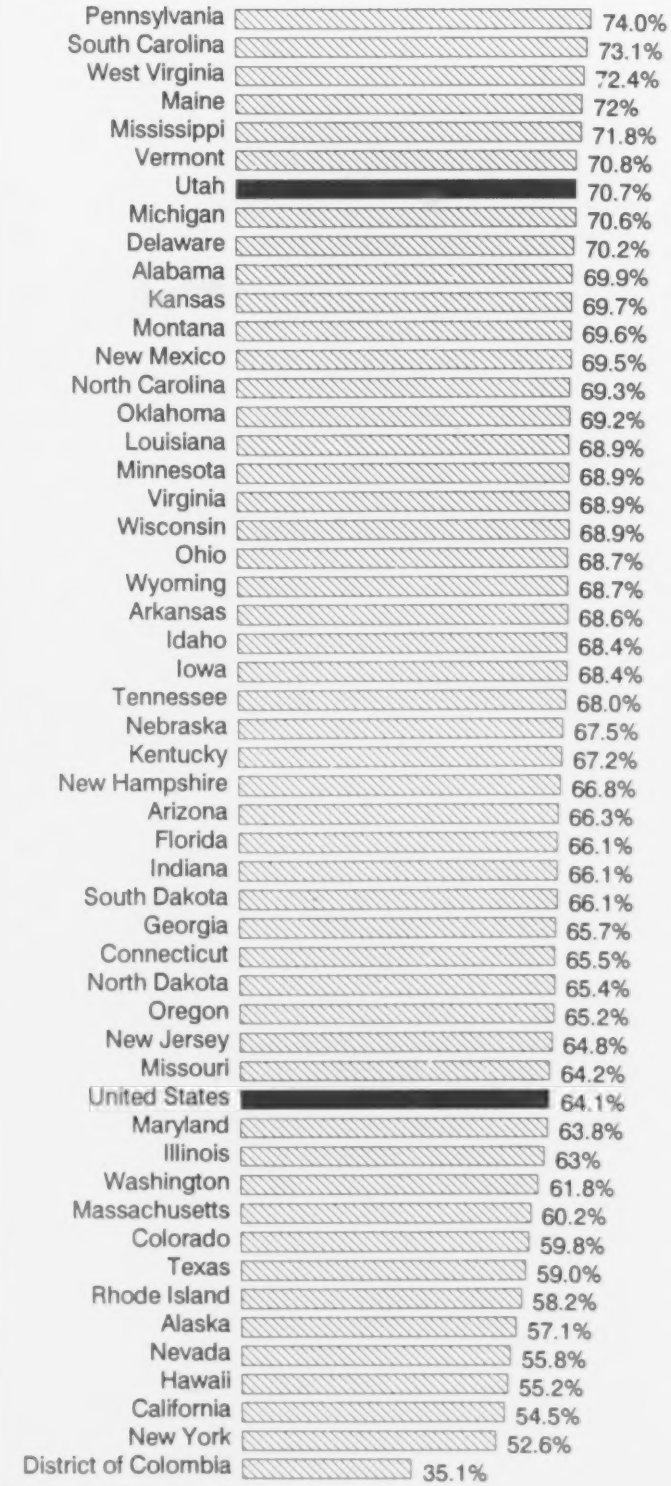
Kimberley A. Bartel

Recently released tidbits from the 1990 Census —

- *More than 76 percent of all Utah women with children between the ages of 6 and 17 were in the labor force in 1990 compared with 65 percent in 1980.*
- *Male participation in the labor force dropped from almost 80 percent in 1980 to about 78 percent in 1990.*
- *The percentage of women with children under 6 working outside the home skyrocketed to 57 percent in 1990 from 37 percent in 1980.*
- *The percentage of Utah families living in poverty increased from 7.7 percent in 1980 to 8.6 percent in 1990.*
- *Roughly 57 percent of families headed by women with children under five had income in 1990 below the poverty line.*
- *Median household income in Utah increased from $17,671 in 1980 to $29,570. However, household income actually dropped slightly when dollars are adjusted for inflation.*

Housing Ownership by State

1991



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce.

Utah Labor Market Report

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Notes

(f)—forecast.

(p)—preliminary.

(r)—revised.

Salt Lake/Ogden Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)—Salt Lake, Davis, and Weber counties.

Provo/Orem Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)—Utah County.

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